

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 AEC-11 IO-14 OIC-04

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1189

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 47

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

S E C R E T VIENNA 0284

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING JANAUARY 11,
1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE AD HOC GROUP THIS WEEK DISCUSSED
PROCEDURES AND TACTICS FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

2. THE GROUP DECIDED TO SUGGEST TO THE SOVIETS THAT
THE NUMBER OF PLENARIES BE REDUCED TO ONE A WEEK
AND EVENTUALLY TO ONE EVERY TWO WEEKS. THE FIRST
PLENARY WILL BE ON 17 JANUARY, ASSUMING EASTERN AGREE-
MENT TO THAT DATE CAN BE OBTAINED. AT THAT TIME,

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CANADIAN REP GRANDE WILL MAKE A GENERAL STATEMENT ON

ALLIED PHAS I PROPOSALS. IN SUBSEQUENT PLENARIES, STATEMENTS ON PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF THE NATO POSITION WILL BE PRESENTED. THE GROUP ALSO AGREED TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON 15 JANUARY. A STATEMENT AND QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS TO BE USED BY THE NATO SPOKESMAN, NETHERLANDS REP QUARLES, WERE APPROVED.

3. IN DISCUSSION OF FUTURE TACTICS, THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT A FOCUS ON US-SOVIET GROUND FORCE REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE SOUGHT THROUGH INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE OTHER SIDE. BELGIN ACTING REP WILLOT, HOWEVER, THOUGHT THAT CONTACTS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN AN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP RATHER THAN THROUGH THE EMISSARY SYSTEM THAT MOST OTHER ALLIES FAVOR. GROUP HAD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF POINTS TO BE MADE TO EAST. THE FRG REP (BEHREND) THOUGHT IT UNNECESSARY TO MENTION THE BUNDESWEHR EXPLICITLY TO THE SOVIETS IN DISCUSSIONS OF LINGKAGE SINCE HE HAD ALREADY ASSURED THEM PRIVATELY THAT BUNDESWEHR WOULD PARTICIPATE IN PHASE 2 IN EVENT OF SATISFACTORY PHASE 1. THESE MATTERS WILL BE DISCUSSED FURTHER AT THE NEXT AD HOC GROUP MEETING ON 15 JANUARY.

4. ASSESSMENT. THE ALLIES HAVE MADE A SMOOTH START IN THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. THERE IS NO BASIC DISAGREEMENT ON TACTICS AND GENERAL SATISFACTION AMONG EUROPEAN ALLIES THAT FOLLOWING WASHINGTON CONSULTATIONS, THE US WISHES TO MAINTAIN PRESENT EVEN PACE OF PROCEEDINGS RATHER THAN PUSHING FORWARD RAPIDLY. THE BELGIANS WILL PROBABLY EVENTUALLY AGREE TO USE THE EMISSARY SYSTEM ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO DEMONSTRATE THAT OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUPS ARE NOT SUITABLE VEHICLE FOR DETAILED PROBE OF EASTERN POSITION.
HUMES

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